

REVIEWS

A MANUAL OF PHYSICAL DIAGNOSIS. By AUSTIN FLINT, M.D., LL.D., Late Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine and of Clinical Medicine in Bellevue Hospital Medical College. Seventh edition, revised by HENRY C. THACHER, M.S., M.D., Associate in Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University; Assistant Attending Physician, Roosevelt and Lincoln Hospitals, New York. Pp. 381; 20 illustrations. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger, 1917.

AFTER an interval of five years the seventh edition of Austin Flint's well-known *Manual of Auscultation and Percussion* appears under the auspices of a new reviser. The first four editions, appearing between the years 1876 and 1885, were revised by the author; the fifth, revised by J. C. Wilson, appeared in 1890; the sixth by Haven Emerson in 1912. A comparison with the six previous editions reveals a steady but small growth both of the book and of the subject, which stands, however, in marked contrast to the enormous development of most medical subjects during the same period.

In a work of such historical interest it seems unfortunate that the title of the present edition had to be changed to that of a *Manual of Physical Diagnosis*, even though it was necessary to include pulse-tracings and other subjects that could not properly be included under the head of auscultation and percussion. The omission of an important chapter on the physical examination of the nervous system, which had been introduced into the fifth edition, is also to be regretted. The space thus gained has been devoted to an opening chapter on the physics of sound. The other two extra chapters of the fifth edition (on the abdomen and on the order of physical examination) have been retained.

The general form of the early editions, which so clearly and accurately present the essentials of a large subject in a small space, has been adequately maintained.

E. B. K.

THE EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCLE. By CLIVE RIVIERE.

THE subject with which this small hand-book deals is of the greatest importance to every practitioner of medicine, as upon it depends not only the cure of the patient but also the prevention

of a possible source of infection to other individuals. The book presents the subject in a very accessible form, which renders it convenient for reference, the reading matter being concise and to the point. This is especially true of that portion of the book dealing with the physical examination of the patient, in which the various steps are well arranged and contain many points in the examination which, although they may appear trivial, are of the utmost importance in the carrying out of a careful examination in a doubtful case. It is to be regretted that the effort to be brief and concise has led the author to abbreviate this most important section of the book.

Undue prominence is given the sections on tuberculin and the use of the roentgen-rays, which are usually not available in the average patient. The chapters on sputum and temperature, while very good, would be improved if allotted some of the space devoted to the special tests above mentioned. The section on tuberculosis in childhood is mainly of value in calling attention to this condition and leading to a more thorough study of the chests of children in which tuberculosis is suspected. The value of the physical signs in the illustrative cases would be considerably increased if they were supported by autopsy findings instead of skiagrams.

Anyone interested in the careful examination of the chest will find in this small volume a great deal of valuable information, arranged in such a manner as to be readily accessible, very readable, and concise.

F. A. C.

PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS: FOR STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS OF MEDICINE. By HORATIO C. WOOD, Jr., M.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics in the University of Pennsylvania; Second Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Revision of the U. S. Pharmacopœia. Second edition. Pp. 455; 28 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company.

THE value of Dr. Wood's original edition of this work and numerous recent advances in pharmacology and therapeutics have demanded this revision. Its publication has been delayed sufficiently to bring it into complete conformity with the new *United States Pharmacopœia*. All the official drugs are included, although the author explains that some of them are of little value, and some unofficial drugs are recognized because of their practical importance. The substitution of "mil" for C.c. is made, but the metric doses are still parenthesized.

The first chapter includes definitions, weights and measures, prescription-writing, incompatibilities, etc., while the rest of the book is devoted to the drugs. These are arranged in groups accord-